

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion.

Claims 11-36 are pending in the application. Claims 11, 13, 15, 17, 29, 33, and 35 are amended by way of this response.

Initially, Applicants express thanks for the Examiner's allowance of Claims 19-32.

Applicants express further thanks for the Examiner's indication that Claims 13, 17, and 35 recite allowable subject matter, such that the objected to claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, the claims are so-rewritten. Therefore, in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, allowance of Claims 13, 17, and 35 is requested.

In the Office Action Claims 11, 12, 33, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hennen in view of Sasa, and Claims 14-16, 18, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hennen in view of Sasa, and further in view of Hori. It is asserted that the amendments to the claims overcome the rejections for the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to a method of manufacturing a rear-projection type screen. Independent Claim 11 recites fixing a first overlapping sheet-like member to a second overlapping sheet-like member to provide a gap between the first overlapping sheet-like member and the second overlapping sheet-like member, the gap extending continuously between first and second protrusions on extreme opposite ends of the second overlapping sheet-like member.

Hennen is directed to a Fresnel lens for a projection screen. As shown in Figure 5F, for example, of Hennen, a screen 1560 includes a Fresnel lens 1562 attached to a central layer

1566, and a support layer 1564 is connected to another side of the central layer 1566.¹ It is submitted that Hennen does not disclose or render obvious, however, the claimed features of fixing a first overlapping sheet-like member to a second overlapping sheet-like member to provide a gap between the first overlapping sheet-like member and the second overlapping sheet-like member, the gap extending continuously between first and second protrusions on extreme opposite ends of the second overlapping sheet-like member. In contrast, it is submitted that Hennen shows multiple gaps, rather than a continuous gap.

It is further submitted that Sasa does not remedy the deficiencies of Hennen. Therefore, it is requested that the rejection of independent Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn, and the allowance of independent Claim 11 is requested.

It is asserted that independent Claims 15 and 33 are allowable for reasons similar to those of independent Claim 11 including the recitation of the continuous gap. Therefore, the allowance of independent Claims 15 and 33 is requested.

Claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 34, and 36 are allowable for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend, as well as for their own features. Therefore, allowance of these dependent claims is requested.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 11-36 is earnestly solicited.

¹ Column 9, lines 29-32.

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Reply to Office Action of February 24, 2005

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Customer Number

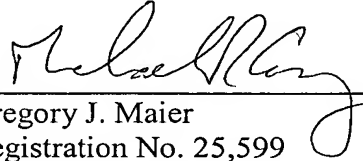
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Respectfully submitted,

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